"race," denoting by the latter term a form which kept distinct from the parent stock and propagated itself independently: such a form was not a "variety" by reason of its constancy and the absence of intermediate links, and could not be considered a "species" by reason of the comparative unimportance of the characters in which it differed from the type-form. The subject of Mr. Wallace's remarks had been treated by him at length in a paper recently read before the Linnean Society: he further illustrated the phenomenon of polymorphism by the following hypothetical case:—Imagine the discovery of an island inhabited by white men, and black (negro), red (Indian), and yellow (Chinese) women, and in which the union of these variously-coloured parents produces children which always resemble one or other of the four above-mentioned forms, no intermediate forms ever occurring; the boys are always white, whilst the girls are black, red or yellow, but without any necessary connexion with the colour of the mother, so that a black girl may be the offspring of a white father and of either a black, red or yellow mother. Such a phenomenon would certainly be an extraordinary one, but it was exactly parallel to what took place with the exhibited species of Papilio.

Gen. Sir John Hearsey remarked that so long ago as 1831 he had captured Papilio Pammon and P. Polytes *in copulâ*, had killed the pair *in situ*, and so sent them to Prof. Westwood; in which position they were to be seen at Oxford to this day.

Mr. Waterhouse enquired whether there was any evidence of the fertility of the abnormal females, since on theoretical grounds it might almost be expected that they would be unproductive.

Mr. Wallace replied that he believed one of the abnormal females then exhibited could be seen to be full of eggs.

Prof. Westwood exhibited a butterfly recently received at the Oxford Museum from M. Snellen van Vollenhoven; the specimen was from Ceram, and it appeared to him to differ from Papilio Peranthus only in its large size and to some extent in its colouring; he found no structural difference whatever, and he begged to exhibit it as P. Peranthus, *var.*; it seemed to him to be precisely one of Mr. Wallace's "local forms," but Mr. Wallace informed him that *he* should describe it as a new species.

Mr. A. R. Wallace said that if structural difference was necessary to constitute a species, two-thirds, or probably nine-tenths, of the existing species must be abolished; the difference between a local form and a species was one of degree only, and in his opinion the butterfly exhibited possessed characters sufficient to entitle it to specific rank.

Prof. Westwood read the following descriptions of two new species of Phasmidæ:—

Heteropteryx Hopei, *Westw.*

Lata, subdepressa, mesothorace conico; fulvo-lutea (viridis? dum viva), tegminibus opacis, pallide stramineis; spinulosa, spinis parvis, capitis vertice spinis octo coronato, mesonoto in medio partis posticæ spinis duabus minutis armato; parte detecta supera oviductûs segmento nono dorsali abdominis fere duplo longiori, elongato-lanceolata, angusta, sensim ad apicem attenuata, apice ipso furcato. (Fœmina.)

Long. corp. lin. 6; prothor. lin. 7; mesothor. lin. 9½; metathor. lin. 9; abdom. segm. 6 basal. lin. 27; segm. 3 apic. lin. 11; oviduct. lin. 6 = long. tot. circ. unc. 6½.

In Mus. Hopeiano Oxoniæ (Coll. Bell). Habitat ———?

Closely allied to H. Grayii, but much larger, though with the spines much smaller;

the tegmina and wings extend to the extremity of the second dorsal segment of the abdomen.

Phyllium Feejeeanum, *Westw.*

Parvum, læte viride, tegminibus fulvo-maculatis; capite et prothorace granulatis; abdomine subheptagono, lateribus segmentorum haud lobatis; femoribus anticis elongato-ovalibus, dimidio apicali marginis interni lobo semi-rotundo denticulato armatis; tibiis omnibus gracilibus; femoribus intermediis elongato-ovalibus, nec intus angulatis. (Fœmina.)

In Mus. Hopeiano Oxoniæ. Habitat Ins. Feejee.

Closely allied to and of the same size as P. lobiventre, but differs in the form of the abdomen and legs. The male is very slender, having the abdomen elongate-lanceolate, with the margins entire, and the terminal joints of the antennæ somewhat thickened.

Mr. S. Stevens exhibited a box of insects recently received from Mr. Diggles, of Moreton Bay, Queensland; they consisted principally of Lepidoptera, with a few Orthoptera, admirably preserved.

Mr. Sharp exhibited a single specimen of a beetle new to this country, the Stenus Kiesenwetteri, which he had captured at Wimbledon. The species appeared to be a rare one, but had occurred in Spain and in Bavaria.

Capt. Cox sent for exhibition some photographs of insects, the execution of which excited the admiration of all; they were very nearly, but rather under, the natural size.

The Secretary mentioned that the name of Sosxetra, proposed by Mr. F. Walker for a new genus of Hymenoptera (Chalcididæ), Trans. Ent. Soc. Ser. 3, vol. i. p. 370, must, according to the ordinary rules of nomenclature, be sunk, since the same author had, at p. 84 of the same volume, described a new genus of Lepidoptera under the same name.

Mr. Frederick Smith said that in stating the contents of the late Mr. Curtis's British Collection, in his Address to the Society at the last Anniversary Meeting, he had made a serious mistake. See 'Journal of Proceedings' for 1863, p. 198. The actual number of specimens was as follows:—Coleoptera, 9405; Lepidoptera, 7200; Hymenoptera, 7715; Diptera, 5878; Neuroptera, 1165; Hemiptera, 1673; Homoptera, 244 specimens.

The Rev. Hamlet Clark communicated extracts from a letter recently received from Mr. John Gray, who was collecting insects at the Cape de Verdes. The letter was partly written from the Island St. Nicholas, under date 22nd of February, 1864, and partly from Porto Grande, St. Vincent, 29th of February, 1864. Eight days had been spent in St. Nicholas, but as regarded Entomology the expedition was a failure; it was the mid-winter of that country, and more beetles could have been got out of any turnip-field on any Christmas-day in England than he had been able to procure there from the whole of the vegetation put together. Nevertheless a few nice beetles were captured—a handsome Dytiscus, a large tropical Gyrinus (Dineutes?), and eight or ten species of Harpalidæ, taken high up on the mountains (Nebria, &c.). Altogether, however, a list could not be made of more than twenty species, of which about five were Heteromera, several species of which were in profusion under every stone. There were no signs anywhere of abundant insect-life; nothing was seen upon the walls of the houses, nothing upon the flowers, nothing anywhere except the Heteromera under stones. A few fine spiders had been obtained, and carefully preserved in spirits.